

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A developer unit with a toner supply and a toner application device (23), wherein toner is supplied to a developer device (30) by ~~means of~~ the toner application device (23), and ~~wherein~~ the developer device (30) can be brought into planar contact with an OPC (10), the developer unit comprising:

~~characterized in that~~

the developer device (30) ~~has~~ having a developer tape (34) ~~which is~~ applied in ~~the~~ a contact area to sections on ~~the~~ a surface of the OPC (10).

2. (Currently Amended) The developer unit in accordance with claim 1, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the developer tape (34) is ~~embodied as an~~ endlessly revolving tape[[,]] which revolves around at least two deflection rollers (31, 32), and the contact area with the OPC (10) is formed in ~~the~~ a space between the deflection rollers (31, 32).

3. (Currently Amended) The developer unit in accordance with claim 2, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ at least one of the deflection rollers (31, 32) is placed against the OPC (10) with the developer tape (34) placed between them.

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4. (Currently Amended) The developer unit in accordance with claim 2, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the contact area is arranged at a distance from both deflection rollers (31, 32).

5. (Currently Amended) The developer unit in accordance with claim ~~one of claims 1 to 4~~, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ a charging arrangement (33) is assigned to the contact area, ~~by means of which~~ and an electrical charge ~~can be~~ is applied to the toner.

6. (Currently Amended) The developer unit in accordance with claim 5, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the charging device (33) ~~can be~~ constituted by comprises at least one corona device.

7. (Currently Amended) The developer unit in accordance with claim 5, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the charging device (33) is formed by at least one bias roller, at which the developer tape (34) rolls off on ~~the~~ a side facing away from the OPC (10).

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8. (Currently Amended) The developer unit in accordance with claim one of claims 1 to 7, wherein characterized in that a tape tensioning device is assigned to the developer tape (34).

9. (Currently Amended) The developer unit in accordance with claim 8, wherein characterized in that a control unit is assigned to the tape tensioning device which adjusts the tape tensioning device as a function of a predeterminable set point.

10. (Currently Amended) The developer unit in accordance with claim one of claims 1 to 9, wherein characterized in that on ~~[[its]]~~ a surface receiving the toner, the developer tape (34) has a surface roughness in ~~the~~ a range of < 0.7 times of the d_{50vol} value of ~~the~~ a toner used, ~~in particular~~ between 5 and 8 μm .

11. (Currently Amended) The developer unit in accordance with claim one of claims 2 to 10, wherein characterized in that a metering roller (24) rolls off the coated surface of the developer tape (34) downstream of ~~the~~ an application device (23) and upstream of the contact area in ~~the~~ a transport direction.

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12. (Currently Amended) The developer unit in accordance with claim 11, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the metering roller (24) rests against one of the deflection rollers (31, 32) with the developer tape (34) placed between them.

13. (Currently Amended) The developer unit in accordance with claim ~~one of claims 2 to 12, wherein~~ characterized in that the toner application device (23) is ~~embodied as~~ an application roller, which rolls off on one of the deflection rollers (31, 32) with the developer tape (34) placed between them.

14. (New) The developer unit in accordance with claim 1, wherein a charging arrangement (33) is assigned to the contact area and an electrical charge is applied to the toner.

15. (New) The developer unit in accordance with claim 14, wherein the charging device (33) comprises at least one corona device.

16. (New) The developer unit in accordance with claim 14, wherein the charging device (33) is formed by at least one bias roller, at which the developer tape (34) rolls off on a side facing away from the OPC (10).

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17. (New) The developer unit in accordance with claim 1, wherein a tape tensioning device is assigned to the developer tape (34).

18. (New) The developer unit in accordance with claim 17, wherein a control unit is assigned to the tape tensioning device which adjusts the tape tensioning device as a function of a predeterminable set point.

19. (New) The developer unit in accordance with claim 1, wherein on a surface receiving the toner, the developer tape (34) has a surface roughness in a range of < 0.7 times of the d_{50vol} value of a toner used, between 5 and 8 μm .

20. (New) The developer unit in accordance with claim 2, wherein a metering roller (24) rolls off a coated surface of the developer tape (34) downstream of an application device (23) and upstream of the contact area in a transport direction.

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21. (New) The developer unit in accordance with claim 20, wherein the metering roller (24) rests against one of the deflection rollers (31, 32) with the developer tape (34) placed between them.

22. (New) The developer unit in accordance with claim 2, wherein the toner application device (23) is an application roller, which rolls off on one of the deflection rollers (31, 32) with the developer tape (34) placed between them.